

Watchman & Journal.

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WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1883.

In a note to his republican brethren of the senate, Senator Edmunds resigns the presidency of that body. The republican caucus postponed action for the reason that Senator Anthony has not been sworn in. It has been generally understood that the honor would be tendered Mr. Anthony, and by him declined on account of his health. Senator Sherman has been mentioned as the probable choice of the caucus, ultimately.

SOME four weeks ago, when the commission of taxes moved on the Troy & Boston railway for non-compliance with the requirements of the revenue law, the president of the company expressed great surprise. He had entirely forgotten the matter, though the urban commissioner had repeatedly called his attention to the fact that his returns were wanted. The official asked for a suspension of hostilities. He had no intention of contesting the law and would attend to the matter at once. So even this faint hope of getting the law into court is lost to its opponents.

TRUE to his word, Senator Edmunds has introduced a bill providing for a government telegraph. Four trunk lines with provision for branches that shall admit of its extension to all sections of the country as rapidly as is deemed expedient, is the main feature of the senator's proposed method of stretching the wires. The business details of operating these lines, the questions of providing financial means for their construction and the direction and management of construction operations, are duly considered. A California member has also presented a measure for the establishment of a government telegraph. It is evident that the president has somewhat modified his views in regard to the necessity of some action by the government. He recommends legislation that shall give the government some sort of supervision over inter-state telegraph communications. The adoption of an effective civil service has apparently broken the force of some of the old objections to this measure. The subject will have an exhaustive discussion, but it is doubtful if the country is yet ripe for the project. Discussion will clear up many objections and may enhance the force of others or develop new ones.

SENATOR MORRILL has introduced a bill relating to the "coinage, silver certificates and United States notes." The bill aims primarily to promote the reform of the coinage, elevate its standard and to improve its artistic appearance. The senator supported his bill in an able speech. The details of his proposed measure are not yet known, but he calls on congress, to repeal the Bland bill passed in 1878, binding the government to buy silver and coin monthly not less than two million nor exceeding four million standard dollars. He shows how the market has been saturated with these coins, and predicts a financial water-pout if the mint is not directed to shut down in this department of its work. The silver certificates which have been issued against the thousands of tons of standard dollars which have been coined, Mr. Morrill shows, will never be presented for redemption in silver. They will demand coin of another color. These certificates are receivable for customs. Whenever our exchanges feel the shock of an adverse balance of trade, or our imports are in excess of our exports, these certificates will turn up and be tendered at the custom house in the place of gold. Gold will become a fugitive from the market in which silver has been king, and this king will become everywhere dominant. The subject which the senator has brought up is an interesting one, vitally affecting the interests of all the people, and especially the earners of wages. It is destined to receive a thorough overhauling in the discussions of this congress, but the prospect of any wholesome legislation affecting the matter is not flattering.

The President's Message.

The third annual message of President Arthur was received too late for publication in the regular edition of THE WATCHMAN last week. An extra sheet containing the document was issued upon its reception here Wednesday morning and mailed to each subscriber. In most instances it was doubtless received simultaneously with the regular edition. With the extinction of slavery and the suppression of the rebellion, opportunities for heroic executive rhetoric or for impassioned appeal passed away. For the past decade, in particular, the great interests which have appealed to the officers of the government for thought and action have been of a material character. These afford scope for the display of sagacious statesmanship, but they do not very strongly arouse the imagination and are not fruitful in themes for brilliant state papers. So the President's message is necessarily, if the executive is a sensible man and eschews unbecoming, a plain statement of the condition of the country, and his statesmanship will appear in the wisdom of his recommendations rather than in florid rhetoric. Of such a practical and patriotic character President Arthur's messages have been and such is his latest, with the added merit of greater brevity, the result of the capacity for condensation imparted by experience and careful study. The President has positive convictions. He expresses his ideas with clearness and firmness. He is sometimes at variance with the members of his cabinet

in his views of proposed measures, and in one or two marked instances his silence expresses his dissent quite as emphatically as phrases of open disapproval.

It is possible that the people at large may be more inclined to side with the postmaster-general in his recommendation that the postage on drop letters at the one hundred and fifty-four offices operating under the free delivery system should remain at two cents. The President recommends that it be reduced to one cent, the same as at the 47,709 offices which do not have free delivery. The ground for this recommendation is that the revenue from this class of matter at these offices exceeds the expense of delivery by something more than a million dollars. If, however, the rate were reduced one-half, the expenses would exceed the revenue by more than fifty per cent, which the people at large would be taxed to pay. Free delivery is a special privilege granted to one hundred and fifty-four out of 47,863 post-offices. The system extends to all mail matter as well as to drop letters, but the total expense of free delivery is compared with the revenue on local matter only. When all the benefits of free delivery are brought into the account, it is not so plain that there is an excess of revenue from two-cent drop letters or that the beneficiaries of the system have any reasonable grounds for complaint with existing rates. The President's remarks under the head, "reduction of taxation," should commend themselves to every reasonable citizen. He believes that further reductions than those effected by the tariff and revenue acts of the last congress may be wisely made, but he does not believe in the adoption of any measures for a large diminution till the effect of recent laws can be definitely ascertained. His plan for the retirement of the trade dollar is just and reasonable. He recommends that it be received at the mint as bullion, at a slight advance from the current market price of silver. On the other hand, the secretary of the treasury advises that they be redeemed at their nominal value in standard silver dollars. The government received no advantage from the coinage of the trade dollar. It took the silver as it was offered at the mint, coined it and passed the coins over to the owners. They are worth now about eighty-seven and one-half cents. It would doubtless please the brokers who have bought up this silver at a discount, to sell it to the government at its face value. To these the secretary's plan is acceptable, but as a matter of business and fair dealing, the President's has the advantage. An individual acting understandingly will not pay one hundred cents for an article that is worth twelve or thirteen cents less, and why should the government?

The navy and the condition of the country's coast defenses should awaken popular interest. A correct public opinion should be formed respecting the means for defending and guarding the great length of sea coast stretching from Passamaquoddy bay to the Rio Grande and hundreds of miles on the Pacific. The arm of the national service which is associated with the most brilliant portions of the national history is in disgrace and the butt of every feeble dabbler's jests. The President's recommendations that some portion of the surplus revenue should be devoted to strengthening the navy and protecting the country's defenceless coast should be taken up by the people and enforced upon the attention of congress. These subjects have been too long regarded with apathy or indifference by the people at large. It is time that they take some interest in this matter and obtain some efficient action. The President proposes heroic treatment of the Mormon question. If the line of policy initiated by the Edmunds bill is adhered to, he advises that supplementary legislation be had to make that measure effective. He displays, however, a lack of confidence in all such measures and favors the repeal of the act upon which the existing government depends and the assumption by congress of the entire political control of the territory. Many other matters of general and specific interest, like the railway problem, forestry, civil service reform, the presidential succession and the civil rights of the colored people, are treated succinctly and patriotically. As a president Mr. Arthur has grown in stature with each succeeding year of his tenure of the office. He is not overtopped by any of his more recent predecessors and the times have been very rare in the history of the Nation when a wiser or abler statesman has been its chief magistrate.

Forebodings.

Writing of "the new departure" of its party, the New York Sun reviews the utterances of the press on the election of Carlisle. It finds democratic exponents of local feeling, East and West, rejoicing over the adoption of "a positive and aggressive policy" and declaring for the repeal of the tariff laws. The *Courier-Journal*, the Kentucky organ of Mr. Carlisle, heroically sounds its old slogan, "a tariff for revenue only." It does not pretend to say that this will insure the democracy the election of a president but that it will give them the only chance of electing a president by presenting an honest and tangible issue. The Sun further quotes from republican journals to show that Carlisle's election is the declaration of a majority of democratic members that the new congress is in favor of the Waterson plan of an aggressive campaign against the tariff. The situation brings a cloud over the Sun. It still declares that it shines for all, but its wayward brethren do not indicate a willingness to be guided by its all-directing rays. In view of these things, the

Sun plaintively remarks: "Amid disasters that would have destroyed almost anything merely mortal, amid errors nearly insane and faults most suicidal, the democracy has continued to exist, to hope, and to struggle for a better day. Is this better day likely to be advanced by the gentlemen who have thus elevated their own one idea into the place formerly occupied by the great universal democratic creed? We dare say they think so, and possibly they are right. It may be that they are wiser than Jefferson, than Jackson, than Tilden, the illustrious men who have hitherto formulated the creed and directed the policy of the democracy. What will be the effect of this new departure upon the election of 1884? This is a problem that experience will promptly solve. Our friend of the *Courier-Journal* declares himself fully prepared for defeat, and probably he will not be disappointed. On the other hand, the *Evening Post* of this city would seem to imagine that the free trade party may win, but this we think must be pronounced a Quixotic illusion. The judgment of sober men will be that in the present temper of the public mind, neither New York nor Connecticut nor New Jersey nor Indiana can possibly be carried upon the free trade programme. Louisiana will certainly vote against it, and Georgia and North Carolina will do likewise. Indeed, the only states that can surely be relied upon to give a democratic majority under such circumstances are Kentucky and South Carolina. Since the battle is arrayed, let us have it earnestly waged and the victory fairly determined. We had hoped that it might be postponed till after the government itself had been reformed, but that is now impossible. We shall watch the contest with eager attention and report its manifestations with the strictest fidelity. The Sun shines for all."

Notes and Comments.

THE New York Sun is beginning to weaken. It now says "the republican party ought to go."

NEW YORK WORLD: "Don't think that anything can stop Mr. Tilden's nomination for the presidency next year, if he will announce his willingness to accept," said National Committeeman B. B. Smalley of Vermont to a reporter yesterday.

NEW YORK SUN: "One of the results of Mr. Arthur's administration of public affairs during the past twenty-seven months is highly creditable to him. There has been a steadily growing confidence both in the soundness of his judgment and in the sincerity of his desire to serve the best interests of the country. That is why the first December message to congress was awaited with curious interest, his second with respectful attention, and his third with the very general conviction beforehand that it would be clear in its terms, wide in its recommendations, and patriotic in its inspiring motives."

NEW YORK SUN: "Well, the truth is that in his inaugural speech Mr. Carlisle seems all the time to be playing Mr. Randall's own music. And he plays it very neatly, too, considering. If Randall had made the speech, he would have expressed the identical sentiments. But the professions of a speech are not of much account when the necessity of the situation compels the orator to execute a programme differing from that he has laid down. Even as honest a man as Mr. Carlisle may be forced to contradict himself. When the committees of the house are made up, the facts will speak. Actions are more decisive than words."

A SALT LAKE dispatch says: "The *Herald*, partly owned by John T. Caine, Mormon delegate to congress, says of the president's anti-Mormon recommendations: 'This is the most sweeping measure ever proposed for the coercion of Utah. However, we do not apprehend the occurrence of anything serious or radical in the immediate future. If we will take the trouble to recall the events of the past dozen years we will understand that the anti-Mormon storm raging through the land is not more violent than the storms that have broken out previous to the assembling of congress every winter within the recollection of the people of this generation.' The question is discussed all over the territory. The church leaders are agitated."

Forty-Eighth Congress.

THURSDAY, December 4.—In the senate a large number of bills were introduced and referred to appropriate committees, and the president's message was read. At a caucus of the republican senators a committee was appointed to organize the committee. The question of ousting the democratic officers of the senate was discussed, but no decision was reached. The house elected the gentlemen selected by the democratic caucus for the minor offices of the senate. The Virginia contested election case was discussed, but no decision reached. After the reading of the president's message, an adjournment was taken.

WEDNESDAY, December 5.—Numerous bills and joint resolutions were introduced in the senate, and Mr. Morrill of Vermont made a speech in support of his bill to suspend the coinage of the standard silver dollar. The house referred the Virginia contested election case to the elections committee, when appointed, with instructions that it report on the legal question involved. An early adjournment was taken. The question of the election of Thomas H. Herndon of Alabama, whose death was announced.

THURSDAY, December 6.—In the senate, after the introduction of a few bills and resolutions, an adjournment was taken until Monday. No business was transacted in the house, that body also adjourning until Monday.

MONDAY, December 10.—Several bills and resolutions were introduced and referred in the senate and the list of standing committees was announced. Mr. Edmunds of Vermont sent a letter to the republican caucus (held before the senate convened) asking to be relieved of the presidency *pro tempore* of the senate. Last night, however, the republican caucus decided to support Mr. Edmunds. The question of electing senate officers will be considered at an adjourned caucus to be held on Thursday. The entire session of the house was devoted to the introduction of bills and resolutions under the call of states, 324 having been presented.

Notes of Travel.

Mr. Editor:—A trip to Chicago, the common gateway to the great West, has become such an every-day experience to Vermonters as to be almost as monotonous as the railroad. The improvements in railroad communication are constantly reducing the distance and augmenting the comfort of the journey. But a recent trip from Chicago to Omaha brought back a number of interesting facts which may not be amiss to speak. To make the most of the trip, by way of sight-seeing, we made the outward journey over the great Rock Island route and returned by way of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy. And it is safe to affirm that among the four or five great lines of communication between the points above named, none are more royally furnished, or more richly deserving the confidence and patronage of the public than those of our choice. The equipment of each road is simply magnificent, being composed of most comfortable day coaches, reclining chairs, sleeping cars, and the best dining cars in the world.

From Chicago to Rock Island—and likewise on our return, from Burlington to Chicago—our route lay mainly through the level prairie, but a rich and very fertile country. In season, being November, the sombre hues of autumn pervaded the landscape, but even this could not conceal the indescribable richness of this garden of the world. On either side of the road, the land was covered with crops of grain, and still more seldom we caught glimpses of large flocks of sheep. These vastnesses of the New Englander to wonder why a man should devote his land to the raising of crops, and a greater variety of crops produced; but doubtless these Western farmers are taught by the lessons of experience, and they are proverbially quick to learn. As a rule the farms are of such magnitude as to separate the dwellings by considerable distances, which gives an unusual look to a Yankee, and doubtless this very fact has much to do with the peculiar character of the people who often come to New England families who emigrate thither, especially to the mothers and children.

Leaving Chicago toward noon, we reached the Mississippi river at Rock Island, a distance of one hundred and eighty-three miles, at evening. Of the former place we saw but little, but passed over to Davenport for the night. The bridge at this point is a masterpiece of engineering, and the view obtained a magnificent view of the river and also of the flourishing city of Davenport resting upon its western bank. Here we made the acquaintance of Mr. H. F. Royce, the assistant manager of the Chicago and Rock Island road, and his accomplished wife. They are both natives of Windsor county—Woodstock and Weatherfield, we believe—and they furnish a good example of the business capacity and social accomplishment which Vermont has so generously contributed to the great West. Mr. Royce is a distant relative—cousin, perhaps—of chief justice Royce of our state, whom we recently reached on our first look at the control of a very large proportion of the great railroad combinations of the West. It is noticeable that Vermonters hold conspicuous places, and among them Mr. Royce justly takes high rank.

Journeying at leisure, for purposes of observation, another day brought us to Des Moines, a distance of 175 miles farther. The trip through a much more undulating prairie land brought more evidence of newness than Illinois, with the never ending corn fields rising and falling in every direction like the waves of old ocean. The monotonous gray of the prairie was frequently broken by small herds of black hogs, and we learned that pork-raising is a rapidly growing industry of Iowa. Des Moines, with its exceptionally pleasant location, its twenty-five or thirty thousand inhabitants, and three or four fine colleges, is a state house, is one of the most charming cities in all the West. While a railroad center and business point of increasing importance, the city is nevertheless pervaded by an air of comfort and quiet repose which is not elsewhere met. The city is a model of order and cleanliness, and its people are proud of their city. We met General Lewis A. Grant and John W. Ryan, Esq., formerly a merchant in Chicago and St. Albans, who, well as several other Vermonters, are held in high esteem in the business and social circles of the city.

One hundred and fifty miles more bring us to the Missouri river at Council Bluffs. The trip through a much more undulating prairie land brought more evidence of newness than Illinois, with the never ending corn fields rising and falling in every direction like the waves of old ocean. The monotonous gray of the prairie was frequently broken by small herds of black hogs, and we learned that pork-raising is a rapidly growing industry of Iowa. Des Moines, with its exceptionally pleasant location, its twenty-five or thirty thousand inhabitants, and three or four fine colleges, is a state house, is one of the most charming cities in all the West. While a railroad center and business point of increasing importance, the city is nevertheless pervaded by an air of comfort and quiet repose which is not elsewhere met. The city is a model of order and cleanliness, and its people are proud of their city. We met General Lewis A. Grant and John W. Ryan, Esq., formerly a merchant in Chicago and St. Albans, who, well as several other Vermonters, are held in high esteem in the business and social circles of the city.

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H. Case, Esq., of Chicago, and his estimable wife, Mr. Case is a son of the Rev. Lyman Case, Congregational clergyman in Coventry fifty years ago, and to whom preaching was learned when a boy. After graduating in Vermont Mr. Case drifted with the tide to the West, where, as manager for the north western states of the Royal Insurance company of Liverpool, he has built up a very large and profitable business, and is now erecting a magnificent ten-story block, costing over half a million dollars, to accommodate its increasing business. Moreover, Mr. Case, true to his New England principles and training, makes liberal use of his talents and wealth in all the great religious and reformatory movements of the day. Mrs. Case, also, who was a daughter of the late Austin Farnsworth of Bakersfield, sister of Judge H. H. Farnsworth of St. Albans, and graduate of the late Dr. Spaulding's school during its palmy days at Bakersfield, is a true help-mate of her husband, and yields intelligent and helpful service in the same fields of religious and benevolent activity. In missionary and temperance work her influence is widely felt. By such instrumentalities as these is the heaven of New England thought and conviction made a saving power in the great West.

One thing especially impressed us throughout our journey. The Western type of civilization is peculiar. Strong, brave, and healthy in manner, bold without being impulsive, speech-working men all, rich and poor—meet you everywhere. While cherishing even a tender loyalty to the memories and traditions of New England, whence so large a proportion of them trace their origin, they have a rapidly increasing regard for the title *Westerner*, and their thoughts are turned more and more to the rapidly developing power, both political and social, of the land of their adoption. In comparison, New England is growing smaller year by year!

Lamotte County Court.

The December term of this court convened on Tuesday of last week, Hon. H. Henry Powers, presiding, assisted by Judges Reuben Savage and Horace Waite. The bar of the county were largely in attendance, and other counties were represented. Among the former present were Hon. H. E. Stuart, A. Burte, Esq., Hon. George A. Ballard and W. D. Stewart, Esq., of Franklin county; J. C. Burke, G. H. Simpson and Nelson Rand, Esq., of Missouri county. The forenoon adjourned, and the day was taken up with the usual formalities of an opening day. The grand and petit jurors were empaneled, and charged relative to their respective duties, etc. The list of the two benches was as follows:

Grand Jury.—R. D. Whittemore, Belvidere; C. B. Waite and A. B. Waters, Cambridge; Elbridge H. Stone, Eden; B. F. Morse, Elmore; Joseph M. Foss and L. B. Sherwin (excused); R. W. McFarland (excused); J. H. Foss, Frank J. Sinclair, Johnson; C. C. Dodge, H. K. Kelley and S. F. Small, Morrisville; E. K. Hale, Harvey McAllister and N. S. Warren (excused); Moses McFarland, and J. H. Foss, C. C. Fisher (excused) and Edson Slaxton (tailor-man), Wolcott; Rowell Town (tailor-man), Morrisville; Edwin H. Shattuck (tailor-man), Waterville.

Petit Jury.—E. S. Brown, Belvidere; W. H. Griswold, H. Manchester, C. N. Melendy, I. H. Melendy and Wm. Melendy, Cambridge; Simon Shattuck and E. G. Warren, Eden; E. P. Darling and V. S. Slaxton, Elmore; James H. Foss, H. T. Denio, Elmore; J. H. Foss, and A. V. Wiewel, Hyde Park; O. P. Balch, O. P. Codding, Eugene P. Grow and Lewis J. Smith, Johnson; Frank Carner, G. W. Clark, J. Huse and A. T. Terrill, Morrisville; H. C. Foss, A. P. Holmes, A. B. Waters, and J. H. Foss, and J. C. Raymond, Stowe; Lyman W. Adams and Nathan W. Leach, Waterville; R. J. Knight, W. M. Parker and A. E. Phillips, Waterville.

On the jury calendar had been set sixteen cases for trial by jury. In two of these Judge Powers was disqualified, five were settled, and three only held on for trial. Finally, as in the case of the defendant was the same as in the case of the plaintiff, and the same questions were involved, but one was tried, which was L. P. Butts vs. David Case. This was the only civil case tried, and it, with one state case—a liquor prosecution—constituted the sum total of jury work during the term. The grand jury came into court Wednesday morning and reported one true bill, which was against a "Castle Garden" gambler who, it was alleged, had been in the city for some time, and was engaged in a gambling establishment, containing nineteen dollars from a man at Morrisville. The grand jury then retired again, and were busily engaged until Monday, when they reported. Most of their presentments were returned by the petit jury, and were all discharged by Saturday and all but one panel on Friday—the one panel being engaged on the case of State vs. Moses Scott of Johnson, in which the prosecution above referred to was the defendant. The evidence of the plaintiff was in substance, about as follows: Case summoned Butts to appear at an arbitration at Glover; when Butts hesitated to attend as such a proceeding was not a legal one, Case threatened to prosecute him, and Case did so. This promise was not kept, and Butts brought a suit to recover the same. This last-named suit was settled by Case, who came to North Hyde Park, where the defendant lived, and Case kept the suit along and Case continued several terms, finally continuing the suit. Butts had paid out about \$30 in attorneys' fees and for his own time; this he sought to recover, with exemplary damages for the defendant's conduct. Case denied that he had overpaid Butts, and that Butts promised to refund whatever was overpaid. Hence he sued Butts. The continuances of the case at several terms he endeavored to account for by showing that the case was not attended to the suit at the time fixed for hearing. Verdict for plaintiff \$37, damages and costs; exceptions by defendant. Brigham & Waterman for plaintiff, John C. Burke and H. H. Rand for defendant.

State vs. Lucius Scott of Johnson was a prosecution for selling lager beer. The defense was insanity. State's Attorney Gileed for prosecution, McFarland for respondent.

North Bedford.—Our schools commenced last week. Mr. Howard from Dartmouth teaches across the river, Lillish Wilmet at Ely station, Alice Berry in Norwich, and Miss Crete Palmer in the home district. The lecture at North Bedford, given by Mr. G. W. Carey, was called forth high praise. "Why need we endure the old when we can get a new one organ for a small sum, and one that will give us excellent music? Let us, like our neighbors, have a new organ, church festival, etc. It would not take long to let the money. . . . P. Holt killed a hog this week which is estimated to weigh 600 pounds; not very small. . . . Aunt Sarah will make her home with her son and daughter this winter. The grist-mill runs night and day almost all the time, and now another addition is being made to the saw-mill. . . . Green leaves and butterflies were seen only last week by your correspondent. Mrs. David Silver has gone to Oxford, N. H., to spend the winter with her son. . . . Mr. Steven Robinson's house is filled with wood choppers from Whitefield, who are chopping wood for Mr. Nutting. . . . Herbert Barnes made a flying visit home last week, stopping only over night.

East Bethel.—A wild deer was seen by several of our villagers, Monday morning, in Frank Wright's meadow, with his cat and sunning quietly until frightened away by the school children. He took to the woods in Mendon Wood's pasture. . . . William F. Smith has returned from Boston. . . . Francis C. Finner, who is attending school here. . . . Mrs. Dan Abbott is in Royalton sewing for Mrs. Chiloom. . . . Mrs. May Benedict has gone to see her mother in Williamstown, who is very ill. . . . The ladies' aid society will have a very interesting social (Wednesday) afternoon and evening. . . . Jessie Smith has gone to Boston to spend the winter with her uncle, Albert Smith. . . . Mrs. Emma Roberts is very low with consumption.

FURNITURE.—Palme has in stock the largest variety of chamber and parlor suites, lounges, easy chairs, book-cases, and a large stock of furniture in America. We cannot speak too highly of this immense stock of new furniture to be had at very reasonable prices. This establishment picks and delivers goods very promptly, and their customers the best satisfaction. Call at 48 Canal street, when you go to Boston, and see for yourself.

Montpelier.

THE "Montpelier house" is the name given to the Bishop hotel by Messrs. Irish and Sparrow. There is to be a Christmas praise service at Bethany church, Sunday evening, December 23.

This entertainment given at the vestry of the Unitarian church last Wednesday evening netted about \$48.

About twenty good Sir Knights from this place attended the annual election of officers at Northfield last week.

CHAPMAN McCABE lectures on "The Bright side of Life in Liberty Prison" at Trinity church this evening at eight o'clock.

CURRIER CRUNCH Sunday-school will meet at the house of the rector on Saturday, at four o'clock, p. m., to practice carols.

The children connected with the Unitarian Sunday-school are to give an opera in connection with their Christmas social.

At the next meeting of Brooks post, G. A. R., December 18, occurs the election of officers, and every comrade is expected to be present.

The annual meeting of the National Life Insurance Company, for the election of officers, will be held at their office on Monday January 7, 1884.

The younger scholars of the Methodist Sunday-school had a social gathering at the home of Mr. H. C. Webster yesterday afternoon and evening.

The Union band of the Baptist church will hold a dime temperance concert and fair on Wednesday evening, December 19, to which the public are invited.

The sociable of the Unitarian society given by Mr. and Mrs. Aaron Bancroft occurs at the Parson this evening. Music will be furnished by Gileon & Cushman's orchestra.

The choir of the Church of St. Augustine are preparing an elaborate programme of music to be used at their services Christmas eve. Mr. H. H. Scribner will preside at the organ on that occasion.

The Central Vermont railroad will run a special holiday train on Wednesday, December 19. Shoppers from this place should have their poultry loaded before eleven o'clock in the forenoon of that day.

The ladies of the Baptist church will give a special social to be given by the ladies of Bethany society, to hold tomorrow afternoon and evening. It is desired that those having articles to contribute should send them to the ladies' chapel this forenoon.

A STATED convocation of King Solomon Royal Arch Chapter, No. 7, will be held at Masonic hall on Thursday evening, December 13th, at half-past seven o'clock. Regular Council meeting at seven o'clock.

ENGINE COMPANY No. 5 has re-elected its officers with the exception of L. S. Goodwin, who declined to run. The company was chosen to fill his position. The company reports a prosperous state of affairs.

The winter term of the Vermont Methodist Seminary opens with good prospects. The registering began at nine o'clock yesterday morning and the students are here. There will be one hundred and fifty students.

R. H. ANGELL, for some time past connected with his brother's tailoring establishment, has purchased a vacant lot on Main street west of J. Loomis's hardware store, and is erecting a main building which he will use as a store. Mr. Angell is to enter the retail wood and lumber business.

JOHN HILL, who has for a long time driven the milk cart for C. T. Sabin, has taken charge of the farm owned by J. W. Rev. Mr. Hill, Middlesex road. Mr. Hill has "run" the milk cart three years, missing only a single day in that time, that one being at the time of the death of his child.

THE Sabin Machine Company has been incorporated with a capital of \$12,000. The object of the company includes various kinds of manufacturing, but more especially that of brass, iron and steel springs. The subscribers to the articles are George Cooke, Charles T. Sabin and James Sabin.

MICHAEL SWERT, a well-known resident, died on Saturday last from a stroke of paralysis received on the Thursday previous. He was sixty-six years of age and was the founder of the St. Jean Baptiste society. He was for a time resident of Burlington, where he was a member of the St. Joseph society of that place. The funeral services occurred yesterday morning at half-past nine o'clock and were attended by the St. Jean Baptiste society, of which he was secretary.

AGAIN the family of Mr. J. W. Brock has to mourn the loss of a dear and beautiful child. Freddie, the youngest son, a bright little fellow about three years of age, died last Thursday night, after an illness of a few days. Mr. Brock was himself confined to his bed at the time, and Willie was the only one of the immediate family who followed his little brother's remains to the funeral services. The funeral was officiated at the funeral services and brothers of Mrs. Brock acted as bearers. The many warm friends of the family sympathize deeply with them in their affliction.

ON Saturday last, while Albert Lamory, a well-known day laborer, was at work in his village, was trimming a tree in the yard of Judge S. S. Kelton on Elm street, he fell a distance of some twenty-five feet and broke a rib. He lay until Oughtine Shambo drove by when he hailed him, and was assisted to the street, and taken to his home. The rib broken in the fall had penetrated a lung and caused a bleeding which resulted in Mr. Lamory's death on Sunday afternoon. He was about thirty years of age, and was a hard-working man, and leaves a wife and a large family of children.

THERE is an aspect of the water question which has not received much attention yet, and that is the rent which would be paid by those who would use the water in the place of engines. Wherever a six or eight horse power engine is now run, as in the printing offices, the bakery, etc., it would be much cheaper to use a water motor and a change would be made in the power once. Furthermore it might stimulate such kinds of business as require small power and cannot afford to run an engine. We estimate that the income from such a source would be between \$250 and \$1,000 per year.

CAROLINE M. PITKIN died at her home yesterday forenoon at ten o'clock. She was born in East Montpelier in 1827, and was a sister of Dr. Wilbur F. Templeton of Glover, and Dr. James M. and H. H. Pitkin. She was married in 1848 to her husband, Gen. Percy F. Pitkin, who, together with her four sons, survives her. She had a stroke of paralysis on Sunday forenoon, and was unable to move her right side and leg. She remained in a partially comatose state until exactly ten o'clock yesterday forenoon, when she passed away. The funeral services will be held at her home tomorrow afternoon at two o'clock. The shops of the Lane Manufacturing Company will be closed during the afternoon out of respect for the deceased.

THE Joseph Proctor Combination appeared at Capital Hill Friday, Saturday and Sunday evenings, presenting the plays of Virgilus, Nick-of-the-Woods, and Damon and Pythias. The fact that Miss Thursby appeared on Thursday evening somewhat unfavorably affected the number of persons in attendance, but the present were highly pleased with the rendition of the plays. Joseph Proctor is one of the very few actors who have been before the public for half a century and he is still able to please a critical audience. Miss Annie E. Proctor won many golden opinions by her captivating ways and was frequently applauded. The support was in general very good. Under more favorable circumstances this company would doubtless fill the hall whenever they might visit this village.

THERE is to be a musical and literary entertainment at the hall of the Union school on Friday afternoon at two o'clock. Each of the several departments will have some part in the programme, which will consist of vocal and instrumental music, recitations, and gymnastic exercises for the primary department. The musical portion of the programme is under the direct supervision of Mrs. W. A. Briggs, who has carefully drilled the pupils during the past two weeks, and who will herself add to the enjoyment of the occasion by giving one or two solos. The entertainment is given up in the interest of the school library, which, while it is one of the best of its size in the state, is yet lacking in suitable reading for the younger members of the school. The admission charged will be ten cents, and the tickets will be sold by the pupils, to whom prizes are offered for the largest number sold.

THE concert band at night held its at Capital Hill last Thursday night. It was composed of two couples, one of whom seemed to be in full sympathy with his purpose to disturb everybody in his vicinity. We wish we knew his name, as it would do us good to print it in full and render the rest of the world more tolerant by knowing the name of a marked quack. In vain did indignant listeners to right of them, indignant listeners to left of them, swoon on